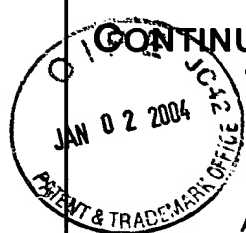


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<b>REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b> Address to: Mail Stop: RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Application Number	09/673,202
	Filing Date	December 4, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Shigehiro Shimada
	Art Unit	2697
	Examiner Name	A. Caschera
	Attorney Docket No.	09793822-0139

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

**1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114**

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously mailed on November 25, 2003, and telefaxed to the examiner on \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)
- b. ☒ Other Petition for Extension of Time

**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any discrepancies, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-3140
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the **filing fee of \$770.00** and the **one-month extension fee of \$110.00** to American Express credit card. Form 2038 is attached for that purpose.

**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customer No. 26263	<u>Christopher P. Rauch</u>
Dated: <u>December 29, 2003</u>	Christopher P. Rauch (Registration No. 45,034)

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Arlington, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Karen Turkowski		
Signature	<u>Karen Turkowski</u>	Date	December 29, 2003

